



Basic SKYWARN Registration, Training, and Certificate Information

National Weather Service Wilmington NC

If you have not done so already, register your contact information at: weather.gov/ilm/spotter

Dear SKYWARN Storm Spotter,

Trained SKYWARN Spotters are a significant part of the National Weather Service's (NWS) severe weather operations team. The reports that you provide will assist NWS Doppler Radar operations with critical information in their warning decision process. Ultimately, the information you provide may help save lives. We truly appreciate you taking the time to attend this class!

Please consider the following:

- 1) Turn off or mute your cell phone during the class.
- 2) Save this page since the reporting procedures can be found on the back, and certificate information can be found in the next section.
- 3) After you complete the class you will be recognized as a SKYWARN Spotter. To obtain your certificate upon completion, visit the following website:

URL: https://www.weather.gov/ILM/SkyWarn_Certificate (case sensitive)

Password: bskyw20 (case sensitive)

**** Use Internet Explorer or FireFox to generate your certificate ****

Thank you for coming and enjoy the class!

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SKYWARN Information and Reporting Procedures

National Weather Service Wilmington NC

To Report Severe Weather

Or... send your reports and/or photos via Twitter, Facebook, phone, or email.

Twitter: @NWSWilmingtonNC

Facebook: NWSWilmingtonNC

Call: (800) 697-3901

E-mail: ilm.wxreports@noaa.gov



What to Report:

- ☐ Funnel clouds/tornadoes/waterspouts
- ☐ Winds (40+ mph) and/or wind damage to buildings and/or trees
- ☐ Hail (any size)
- ☐ Flooding (standing or flowing)
- ☐ Snow/ice
- ☐ Any weather-related injuries or fatalities

When Making a Report:

- ☐ **WHO** you are: Trained Spotter, name, etc.
- ☐ **WHEN** the event happened
- ☐ **WHAT** you have seen
- ☐ **WHERE** the event is occurring
- ☐ **Reminder: Only make a report when you can do so safely!**

Estimating Hail Size

¼ – ½ inch	Pea
¾ inch	Dime/Penny
1 inch	Quarter
1 ¼ inch	Half Dollar
1 ½ inch	Ping Pong
1 ¾ inch	Golf Ball
2 inch	Egg
2 ½ inch	Tennis Ball
2 ¾ inch	Baseball
4 inch	Softball

Flooding

Do Not Drive Into Flooded Areas!

- Is the water up to the wheel, base of door, or over the hood on cars?
- Is the water over curbs, or into yards, homes, or businesses?
- Is the water standing or flowing?
- Are roads closed or impassable?



Estimating Wind Speed



Speed

20-25 mph
25-30 mph
35-40 mph
40-45 mph
45-55 mph
55-65 mph
65-80 mph
80+ mph

Observations

Branches and small trees sway
Large branches sway, wires whistle
Whole trees sway, walking difficult
Small branches break off
Branches break, w/ some minor structure damage
Large branches break, trees uprooted, structural damage
Numerous trees/limbs down, more structural damage
Trees uprooted/snapped, significant structural damage